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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/673,090	09/26/2003	Jean-Yves Cras	16499P-000121US	7549

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EXAMINER

ALAM, SHAHID AL

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2162

DATE MAILED: 11/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/673,090	<b>Applicant(s)</b> CRAS ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Shahid Al Alam	<b>Art Unit</b> 2162	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1 – 15 are pending in this office action.

#### ***Drawings***

2. The informal drawings are not of sufficient quality to permit examination. Accordingly, replacement drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to this Office action. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation

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under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1 – 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,260,050 issued to Kyle Yost et al. ("Yost") and in view of Panos Vassiliadis ("Vassiliadis").

With respect to claim 1, Yost teaches presenting to the user a plurality of selections associated with reporting objects, accepting a user input to select at least one reporting object (column 2, lines 66 – column 3, lines 2); creating one or more queries based upon the deduced set of data; and querying a data source to retrieve data associated with the deduced set of data (column 2, lines 27 – 32 and column 5, lines 1 – 6).

Yost does not explicitly disclose parsing the selected reporting objects into layout information and data definition information and using the data definition information to deduce a set of data as claimed.

Vassiliadis teaches drilldown operation through the dimensions of the report and while drilling down, queries will be sent to retrieve rows, which is similar to the claimed limitation (page 53, right column, line 45 – page 54, left column, line 17; Vassiliadis).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Vassiliadis with Yost to make the system more users friendly.

As to claim 2, providing the retrieved data to the user to generate the report according to the user's selected reporting objects; and using the layout information to present the retrieved data in a report format associated with the layout information (column 2, lines 29 – 35; Yost).

As to claim 3, accepting user inputs is by dragging and dropping graphical representation of the reporting object in a position relative to one or more other graphically represented reporting objects, where the position to the other graphically represented reporting objects determines that layout information and the data definition information (Dragging and dropping allows users to use a different dimension. Yost teaches that the report can be drilled across to get a new dimension. See column 15, lines 50 – 53).

As to claim 4, accepting user inputs is by entering instructions into a text editor (column 14, lines 16 – 27, line 66 – column 15, line 2; Yost).

As to claim 5, accepting user inputs further comprises generating a report specification, wherein the report specification includes a set of computer program instructions (Vassiliadis: page 57, right column, lines 44 – 57).

As to claim 6, the set of computer program instructions include XML tags (column 15, lines 6 – 14; Yost).

As to claim 7, parsing the accepted reporting objects comprises building a data source query from the data definition information (column 2, lines 27 – 32 and column 5, lines 1 – 6; Yost).

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As to claim 8, using the data definition information to deduce the set of data further comprises deducing a physical cube structure, wherein the physical cube structure includes the set of data (Vassiliadis: page 57, left column, lines 1 – 14).

As to claim 9, creating the query based upon the deduced cube structure includes using RDBMS query techniques (column 2, lines 27 – 32 and column 5, lines 1 – 6; Yost).

As to claim 10, creating the query based upon the deduced cube structure includes using OLAP query techniques (column 2, lines 27 – 29; Yost).

Claims 11 – 12 are essentially the same as claims 1 – 10 except that it sets forth the claimed invention as a system rather than a method and rejected for the same reasons as applied to hereinabove.

Claims 13 – 15 are essentially the same as claims 1 – 10 except that it sets forth the claimed invention as a program product rather than a method and rejected for the same reasons as applied to hereinabove.


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***Contact Information***

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shahid Al Alam whose telephone number is (571) 272-4030. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:00 A.M.- 4:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Shahid Al Alam  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2162

November 23, 2005